

California Postsecondary Education Commission

Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program

Project Description

Project Title	Inland Area Science Project Teacher Retention Initiative		
Grant Amount: \$334,000	Grant Period: February 1, 2007 to January 30, 2011		
Grade Level:	Subject Matter: Science		
Institute of Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/> University of California, Riverside		
Local Education Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Additional Partners:	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Need for Project/ Population To Be Served:	<p>There is a need in the Inland Empire to provide sustained professional development to 6th-9th grade science teachers at program improvement schools in an effort to increase both student achievement and teacher retention. Middle schools in Moreno Valley and Rialto Unified School Districts have indicated interest in participating in the project. The science teachers in these two districts will benefit from both the coursework and the CSET examination preparation that will be provided in this grant.</p>		
Project Goals:	<p>The project's goals are to provide relevant and sustained professional development to 6th-9th grade science teachers in an effort to increase the retention rate at partner schools, to provide participants strategies for developing academic language in science for English learners and methods for teaching literacy through science, and to develop mentors/coaches at the partner schools who can provide professional development at their school site and to pre-service students enrolled in the UCR SMI Initiative.</p>		
Summary of Activities:	<p>The Inland Area Science Project UC Riverside Middle School Project will provide science content institutes for 6th-9th grade teachers in chemistry, life, earth and physical sciences. The institutes will be offered to teachers in the research cohort and other middle school teachers. Follow-up activities during the academic year will include establishing collaborative professional learning communities at school sites, preparing for the CSET examination, developing mentor skills to serve as coaches, methods for teaching science to English learners and strategies for teaching literacy in science. An open, one week institute will be offered to 4th-5th grade teachers as a fee-based program</p>		
Outcomes Expected:	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher participation in both professional development activities and professional learning communities will provide professional support, encouragement and community that enables effective teaching and generates long term commitments to the students and schools where they practice.		
Teachers Served	120	Students Served	10,540
Project Website:			
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